

RECYCLING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
16101 Frederick Road
Derwood Maryland 20855

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLES



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Upcoming Events . . .

For more information about the following events, please contact the Recycling Volunteer Program at (301) 840-2852, or e-mail us at volunteers@mcrecycles.org. All of our activities are approved for Student Service Learning.

AUGUST	8th-16th	Mongomery County Agricultural Fair Shifts 9:00a.m.-Noon and 3:00p.m.-8:00p.m.	
SEPTEMBER	13th	11a.m.-3p.m.	Poolesville Day
	20th	11a.m.-3p.m.	Brookside Nature Center
	21st	11a.m.-4p.m.	Olde Towne Gaithersburg Day
OCTOBER	4th	10a.m.-4p.m.	Bohrer Park Housing Fair
	4th	11a.m.-4p.m.	Germantown Oktoberfest @ Seneca Creek Park
	12th	Noon-4p.m.	Kentlands Oktoberfest

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Visit our website for the most current
and up-to-date information:
www.mcrecycles.org/volunteer



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THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLETTER



Summer 2003

Number 65

Notes from the Editor...

Summer has finally arrived and everyone is getting very busy being outside and enjoying the weather. We are conducting outreach and education at many outdoor venues assisting households, businesses, and various civic groups with improving their recycling efforts.

The Division of Solid Waste Service's Earth Day Celebration on Saturday April 26th was a wet one, but great none the less. We had many dedicated volunteers show up (in spite of the rain) to provide assistance with outreach and education. Volunteers helped children make their own paper and spin art creations. Our bubble making area was a hit with the little tots who weren't big enough to make paper or spin art.

Feeding off Earth Day was the Division's Recycling Awareness Week held May 19th through the 23rd. What a week it was, we had 11 events in 4 days! The first events to kick off the week's activities were the

Volunteer Recognition Dinner and visits to schools with a Recycling Magic Show. Everyone had fun! Now after a short break we begin planning for the **County Fair beginning Friday August 8th, running through Saturday August 16th** and the upcoming events for the Fall.

In this issue we will try to provide you with some great solutions to your everyday questions dealing with recycling, grasscycling and where to take recyclable items. These tips are designed to be informative and useful. We hope you will keep this issue handy for future use.

We need everyone to recycle as much as possible to reach our goal of recycling half of all waste, so let's keep up the good efforts and do even more! Hope to see you at the Fair!

MaryLou McQuaide



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PICTURED AT LEFT:
MaryLou and gang . . .



RECYCLING AWARENESS WEEK

Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services celebrated Recycling Awareness Week May 19-May 23, 2003. Recycling Awareness Week was created four years ago as a way to promote recycling, waste reduction and buying recycled in the County. All of the events had a theme of "Recycle All You Can" and encouraged residents and businesses to recycle as much as possible and as often as possible. An Awards Program featuring businesses that have excelled at recycling, and guest speakers Bob Levey of The Washington Post and Edwin Pinero, Deputy Federal Environmental Executive were featured. The events were a success and the rain held off long enough for "The Recycling Olympics" to be held at Cabin John Park. Local celebrities assisted us in getting the recycling message out. We look forward to next year's events and activities.

COMPOST BINS ARE AVAILABLE!

Now is the perfect time for residents to take advantage of the County supply of compost bins. Do you have extra leaves or plant trimmings? Montgomery County has the perfect solution for you! The Transfer Station (Route 355 and Shady Grove Road) has compost bins available for residents to use. Bins are easy to assemble and can be moved around the yard. They come with directions so even first time composters can succeed. Generate compost at home and use it in your garden or as a soil amendment. STOP buying fertilizer. Save money and use a natural resource at home. The Transfer Station offers bins to Montgomery County residents Monday-Friday from 8:30a.m.-5:00p.m. All persons must sign a consent form so the County can follow up on how well you're doing with your compost bin or offer you assistance in the future.

GRASSCYCLING TIPS

It's Grasscycling time and the key is to mow more often and cut less! Grasscycling is a healthier and more natural way to maintain your lawn, allowing you to save money and recycle a valuable resource back into your grass. Grasscycling means grass-recycling or leaving the clippings behind on the lawn as you mow. More frequent and proper cutting will yield smaller grass clippings, which can readily break down into the soil and decompose within days while releasing nutrients and micronutrients along with organic matter. This saves homeowners the cost of going out and buying soil amendments and fertilizers. Letting your grass clippings lie provides the same benefits without the cost! The basic rules for Grasscycling are: Always mow your lawn when grass is dry; Make sure your mower blade is sharp; and Never cut off more than one third of the plant's total height.

Cool weather grasses, such as Kentucky Bluegrass, Fine and Tall Fescue, and Perennial Ryegrass, should be cut no lower than 2.5 to 3 inches, and should be mowed at or before reaching 4 inches in height. Warm weather grasses, such as Zoysia or Bermudagrass, should be cut to between 1/2 and 1 inch, and cut when they reach 2 inches.

Finally, never cut off more than one third of the plant's total height.



BUY



RECYCLED

PRODUCTS

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner held Monday evening May 19, 2003 was a great success. Volunteers and guests alike engaged in pleasant repartee over fine dining. We had a great turnout of about 100 people. The conversation was lively and the speeches were kept to a pleasant minimum. County officials expressed their thanks and gratitude to a dedicated group of individuals who gave their time and expertise freely throughout the year. This was the Division's way to thank the volunteers for a job well done throughout the year. The photo at right shows proud volunteers receiving their awards.



MaryLou and volunteers at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTERS

COLLEGE PARK AREA

ECO Recycling Yard on campus 301-405-0927

Web site www.inform.umd.eco

Paint Branch Drive across the street from the Comcast Center. Open 24 hours. *Accepts white, colored, office and computer paper, Corrugated and glossy cardboard glass, aluminum cans newspaper, telephone books, textbooks, aluminum foil, magazines, catalogs, steel cans and scrap metal.*

DAMASCUS AREA

St. Paul's Catholic Church 301-253-2027

9240 Main Street

Open 24 hours a day

Accepts newspaper in bin behind the church.

GAITHERSBURG AREA

The City of Gaithersburg provides mixed paper and corrugated cardboard recycling for its residents. Call the Public Works Department at 301-258-6370 for more information.

Office Paper Systems 301-948-6301

7650 Airpark Road

Drop-off bin available M-F from 9am-5pm

Accepts all types of paper-"anything that tears."

ROCKVILLE AREA

Montgomery Scrap Corporation 301-424-3000

15000 Southlawn Lane

Mon.-Fri. 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sat. 7:00 a.m.-Noon

Buys back aluminum cans, scrap metal, other metals, and accepts appliances, including refrigerators with freon removed.